



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE NATCHEZ TRACE PARKWAY

Application for Rental of Agricultural Lands

Please fill in all items that apply to you or your operation. If additional space is needed, please use the back of this application. Detailed information on your agricultural experience and training will expedite this application, and will be used in making a final determination in awarding 5-year permits. All applicants will be evaluated on:

(1) experience and education in agricultural operations, (2) understanding of tillage methods, soil conservation, cropping and grazing practices, (3) understanding and use of integrated pest management (IPM) techniques, (4) willingness to abide by conditions stated in the Special Use Permit, and (5) prior performance if currently a lease holder in the park.

Return Completed Applications To:

Natchez Trace Parkway
Attn: Marchelle Williams
2680 Natchez Trace Parkway
Tupelo, MS 38804

662-680-4014
marchelle_williams@nps.gov

The agricultural lease program is intended to maintain the rural agricultural scene along the Parkway and to preserve the scenic variety along the 444-mile route. The Parkway's agricultural leases are also important because they provide visual variety and diversity by maintaining openings to views of distant landscapes.

Agricultural lands along the Parkway are leased through a Special Use Permit. Permits are issued for a period of 5 years. In permitting agricultural use of NPS lands, the Parkway is required to foster practices, which conserve soil, protect streams and groundwater, control exotic plant species, and avoid toxic contamination of the environment. Permittees are required to comply with all applicable state and federal laws and with National Park Service policies concerning agricultural leasing and protection of park natural and cultural resources.

Permittees are generally required to mow agricultural leases at least twice a year to control weeds and exotic plant species (e.g., thistle, multiflora rose, etc.). Pasturing is generally permitted year-round for farmers who pasture private lands adjacent to a Parkway. Lessees are also required to take measures to prevent soil erosion and loss, by implementing conservation measures such as strip cropping, no till farming, planting on the contour, winter cover crops, buffer strips, and crop rotations.

For more information about the Natchez Trace Parkway Agricultural Lease Program, contact Ranger's Activities Assistant Marchelle Williams at (662) 680-4014 or email marchelle_williams@nps.gov.



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE NATCHEZ TRACE PARKWAY

Application for Rental of Agricultural Lands

Parcel Number and/or Milepost Location(s) for which you are applying (see announcement) _____

Are you a current Lessee? () Yes () No

Hay/Pasture _____ Crop _____ If cropping, type of crop _____

Name			
Address			
Phone Numbers	Home:	Office:	Cell:
Email			

Years of agricultural operations experience:

1. List the types of agricultural operations in which you have experience, including types of crops grown and type of livestock managed and the number of years of experience.

2. List examples of tillage methods used, soil conservation practices, cropping, and grazing practices you have used.

3. Have you implemented any Integrated Pest Management (IPM) programs on your farmland? Please describe. () Yes () No

4. Do you have a current State Pesticide Applicator's License? () Yes () No

5. Are you willing to abide by the attached conditions if you are awarded a permit by the National Park Service? () Yes () No If not, what conditions are not acceptable?

6. Are you willing to cooperate with the U.S. Natural Resource Conservation Service and the County Cooperative Extension Agent? () Yes () No If not, why?

SIGNATURE

DATE